

REMARKS

Summary of the Office Action

Claims 1, 3-7, and 13 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Kodera et al. (US Pat. No. 6,195,149) in view of Hadoka et al. (JP 09-325328) and Shiraishi (US Pat. No. 6,864,947).

Claims 8-12, 16, and 17 stand allowed.

Summary of the Response to the Office Action

Claims 1 and 8 have been amended. No new matter has been added. Claims 1, 3-13, 16, and 17 are pending in this application for consideration.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants thank the Examiner for the allowance of claims 8-12, 16, and 17. Based on the following remarks, Applicants believe that the rest of the claims are also distinguishable over the cited art.

All Claims Comply With §103

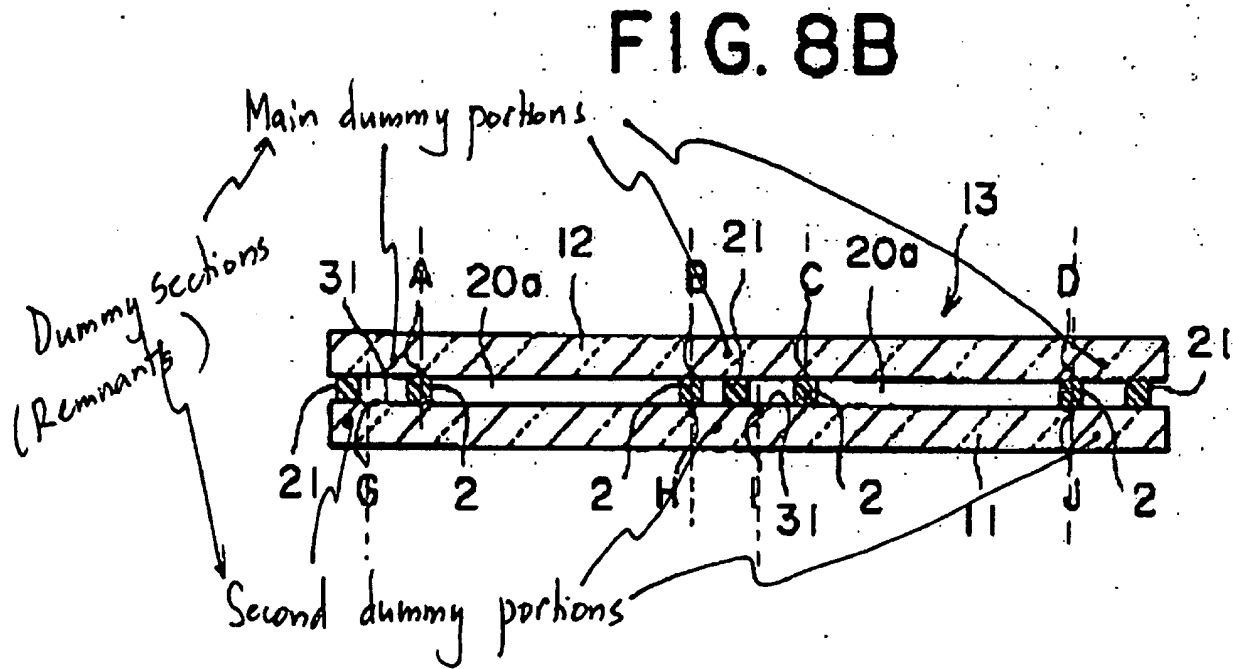
Claims 1, 3-7, and 13 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Kodera et al. in view of Hadoka et al., and further in view of Shiraishi.

Applicants traverse for the following reasons.

As amended, independent claim 1 recites, in part, “*each* of the first and second mother substrates includes a plurality of dummy sections, each dummy section including a main dummy portion and a secondary dummy portion.” (Emphasis added.) As stated in the previous

response, Kodera et al., Hadoka et al., Shiraishi all fail to teach or suggest at least this feature. It is alleged in the Office Action that Shiraishi teaches such a feature and cites to the annotated FIG. 8B of Shiraishi included in the Office Action. (FOA: p. 8, bottom paragraph.) Applicants disagree.

The annotated FIG. 8B cited in the Office Action (FOA: p. 6) is reproduced below for convenience.



The rejection is based on the construction that the “dummy section (remnants)” of Shiraishi is made up of “main dummy portions” from the upper substrate and “second dummy portions” from the bottom substrate. By contrast, amended claim 1 recites, in part, that “*each* of the first and second mother substrates includes a plurality of *dummy sections*.” (Emphasis added.)

Further, “*each* dummy section including *a main dummy portion* and *a secondary dummy portion*.” (Emphasis added.) In other words, the first mother substrate includes a plurality of dummy section, each of the dummy sections including a main dummy portion and a secondary dummy portion and the second mother substrate includes a plurality of dummy section, each of the dummy sections including a main dummy portion and a secondary dummy portion. As construed, Shiraishi fails to teach or suggest at least such a feature. Accordingly, Kodera et al., Hakoda et al., and Shiraishi, whether taken individually or in combination, fail to teach or suggest all the recited features of independent claim 1.

Claims 3-7 and 13 depend from independent claim 1. Accordingly, these claims are also allowable over Kodera et al., Hakoda et al., and Shiraishi for at least the reasons discussed above.

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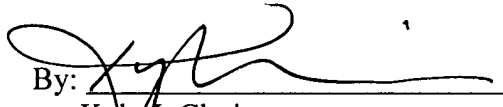
CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and the timely allowance of the pending claims. Should the Examiner feel that there are any issues outstanding after consideration of the response, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicants' undersigned representative to expedite prosecution.

If there are any other fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-0310. If a fee is required for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 not accounted for above, such an extension is requested and the fee should also be charged to our Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,
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